

Cup-Tie Scoring Spurt

Worthing 2, Wycombe Wanderers 3

THREE goals in 15 minutes gave Wycombe a win in this A.F.A. Invitation Cup clash on Saturday in a tie which produced little attractive football from either side.

Worthing, at the foot of the premier division table of the Athenian League, shook the Wanderers by racing into an early lead. Wycombe created plenty of goal-scoring opportunities but their finishing was far too casual and they were still one down at half-time.

Wycombe were forced to make a late change when Len Worley dropped out, because of a cold, and Peter Roystone appeared in the number seven shirt although he operated in the half-back line.

The Wanderers adopted a 4-3-3 formation and in the second half Ian Rundle filled the link role between defence and attack. Finishing was still too casual but Worthing were given little scope to mount any attacks of their own.

Two goals from Viv Busby and one from Tony Horseman paved the way for Wycombe's win before Worthing scored a further goal just before the final whistle.

Wycombe Wanderers: Wells; Beck, Priestley; Baker, Rundle, Gale; Roystone, Busby, Bates, Horseman, Merrick.

WORTHING IN FINE FORM IN CUP TIE

WORTHING 2, WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3

AFTER WEEKS of vainless toil and sweat to avoid Athenian League relegation, Worthing, in more relaxed mood, gave top Isthmian League club Wycombe a rattling good game in Saturday's A.F.A. Invitation Cup (1st round) match at Woodside-road.

Worthing went ahead after 29 minutes with a simple goal by Tony Miller and held the lead until the 70th minute but then Wycombe, with nine minutes of brilliance, scored three times.

Colin Woffinden pulled one back in the 84th minute and Ernie Miles almost snatched an equaliser but Wycombe deserved their victory.

Play was end-to-end with both goalkeepers in action and Worthing's David Jones emerged as the man-of-the-match.

Jones was soon in action and in the ninth minute Miller fired in a shot from 35 yards which Wycombe's Wells tipped over the bar.

Inside-left Horseman, who prior to this match had notched 65 goals for Wycombe this season, proved a real handful for the Worthing defence in which Tony Molineaux had one of his less confident days.

Fine cross

A fine cross by Colin Casemore was headed away before Miles or Miller could reach it but in the 29th minute Worthing took the lead. Jim Horton touched a free-kick to Woffinden whose shot was put round for a corner. From Casemore's long corner kick, Roger Weekes chipped the ball back and the unmarked Miller nodded in from only a yard out.

Jones made two brilliant saves from Horseman and an interesting first half ended with Wells going down to punch a shot from Miller round a post.

At the start of the second half Worthing were lucky to scramble the ball away and in a counter-attack Miller blazed over the bar.

Quick thinking by the Worthing defence, plus more top class saves by Jones, kept Wycombe out until the 70th minute when Busby flashed in an angled, close range equaliser. Jones might have prevented this one had he rushed out to distract Busby.

Great save

Wycombe were now buzzing. Jones, seconds after making a great save from Roystone, was beaten by Merrick but the ball hit a post.

Wycombe went ahead in the 74th minute. Jones touched Roystone's shot but the ball hit the bar and when it bounced down Horseman scrambled it in. Then Busby tricked Molineaux with ease and gave Jones no chance with a shot just inside the post.

Taking a pass from Miller, Woffinden beat a man and lobbed in Worthing's second over the head of Wells but it left too little time for Worthing to fight for an equaliser.

Worthing: D. Jones; D. Tarrant, K. Swallow; K. Walsh, A. Molineaux, J. Horton; C. Casemore, C. Woffinden, E. Miles, A. Miller, R. Weekes.